CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. 20-211

RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE ADMINISTRATION TO SUPPORT A CIRCULAR ECONOMY, FOOD ACCESS, AND LOCAL AGRICULTURE IN IMPLEMENTING HONOLULU'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY.

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization designated the outbreak of a respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus that was first identified in Wuhan, China ("COVID-19") a pandemic of international concern; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency and on April 1, 2020 declared a major disaster for the State of Hawaii ("State"); and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and extraordinary measures taken by State and local governments to mitigate the effects of the pandemic have had a severe and unprecedented impact on the State's economy, causing hotels, shopping malls, airlines, restaurants, retailers, service professionals, nonprofits, farms, and numerous small businesses to significantly reduce or shut down operations; and

WHEREAS, as the COVID-19 pandemic subsides and emergency restrictions are gradually lifted, the City and County of Honolulu ("City") has a unique opportunity to reshape the City's post-COVID-19 economy from a service economy characterized by lower-wage tourism jobs in a state with the nation's highest cost of living to a locally-based, sustainable, and resilient economy; and

WHEREAS, the City Administration could use a circular economy model, greater food access, and new agricultural principles to assist in recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and create an improved economic base; and

WHEREAS, a circular economy is an economic system aimed at eliminating waste and the continual use of resources by employing reuse, sharing, repair, refurbishment, remanufacturing, and recycling to keep products and materials in use, and regenerate natural systems; and

WHEREAS, by utilizing recommendations for a circular economy detailed in the attached Exhibit A ("Moving Towards a Living Economy Policy Package to Support Comprehensive Change in Waste Management"), the City may save costs, create jobs, address environmental justice, and reduce demolition waste; and

WHEREAS, similar economic models have been employed in other jurisdictions which have adopted zero waste initiatives, including:

- San Diego, California - Road to Zero Waste Plan, Next stop 75%;

- Baltimore, Maryland - Fair Development Plan for Zero Waste;
- Oakland, California - **The Future: A "Zero Waste" Oakland;**
- New York, New York - Zero to Landfills Plan; and
- Austin, Texas - Zero Waste Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Agricultural Response & Recovery Working Group ("ARRWG") is a coalition of agricultural stakeholders, including farmers, the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, the Hawaii Farm Bureau, and the Hawaii Farmers Union, convened in response to the destabilizing effects of the coronavirus pandemic, with the goal of forging deeper connections among local agriculture, emergency food distribution, and long-term economic planning; and

WHEREAS, the ARRWG has articulated a long-term plan for re-envisioning and recovery of Hawaii's agriculture, detailed in the attached Exhibit B ("Hawaii Agriculture Response & Recovery Working Group - Fact Sheet and Recommendations," dated May 2020); and

WHEREAS, the ARRWG has also made recommendations for improving food access in the City, including steps for building farm fed communities, food system resilience, and direct producer support and capacity, as detailed in the attached Exhibit C ("Priority Recommendations for City & County of Honolulu," dated June 2020); and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that utilizing the policies and practices of a circular economy, food access, and agriculture as described on the attached exhibits in the City's economic recovery plans will assist in the City's economic recovery while transforming the City's economy into one that keeps products, equipment, and infrastructure in use for longer periods of time, improves the productivity of these resources, lessens the City's dependence on tourism, and gradually decouples the City's growth from the consumption of finite resources; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it encourages the City Administration to support a circular economy, food access, and local agriculture in implementing Honolulu's economic recovery by utilizing the policies and practices described in the attached exhibits; and

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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Director of Budget and Fiscal Services, and the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Revitalization.

INTRODUCED BY:

Tommy Waters

Councilmembers

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

AUG 20 2020
Honolulu, Hawaii

Moving Towards a Living Economy

Policy Package to Support Comprehensive Change in Waste Management

As a collective of nonprofit organizations, advocacy groups, small businesses, and individuals, we aim to address Honolulu's excessively wasteful and expensive resource management system. Our information and policy recommendations shift to a cohesive system that prioritizes a just recovery for Honolulu is a framework. It prioritizes economic models that: create healthy jobs with living wages, advance ecological resilience, reduce resource consumption, restore biodiversity and minimize resource extraction.

A circular waste economy means a locally based sustainable economy. It first prioritizes the design and production of durable goods that can be reused and repaired while minimizing harm to communities and the environment. Next, resources are diverted from disposal through reuse and repair. Finally, recycling, composting, and other technologies are used as a final means to prevent the discard of valuable materials.

Primary points of this shift are:

- Divorcing our systems from excessive production and consumption.
- Creating less materials in need of life cycle management by focusing on reduction, reuse, and redesign.
- Instead of viewing materials as "waste," value them as resources.
- This "discards" management system emphasizes how these resources can flow full circle during the total life cycle of materials from product design, collection, and processing to the marketing of new products made from the material.

What's Included in this Package:

- Environmental Justice
- Cost Savings and Job Creation
- Models Happening Elsewhere
- Infrastructure for waste reduction
- Waste Alternative Models
    - Food Waste Reduction and Composting
    - De-Construction Industry
    - E-Waste
    - Plastic Pollution, Oil + Upcycling

Exhibit A

Environmental Justice:

Every year more than 100,000 tons of toxic ash from H-Power are buried at the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill in Kapolei. Trash incinerators release 28 times as much dioxin air pollution than coal, about six times more lead and mercury, 3.2 times more nitrogen oxides (NOx), 2.5 times as much carbon dioxide (CO2), twice as much carbon monoxide (CO) and 20% more sulfur dioxide (SO2).[1] Since incinerators are not monitored daily it is hard to know the amount of toxins that are in the surrounding air. Living within 4 miles of a landfill, people are at a higher risk of respiratory, gastrointestinal, nervous system, and pregnancy issues. Approximately 18,000 people are living within 2 miles of the PVT landfill site, some as close as 750 feet. PVT takes in materials containing asbestos, drywall, polluted soils, and hydrogen sulfide gas; all known leachates into the air, groundwater, and soil. Workers also truck toxic coal ash regularly from AES power plant as an interim cover to prevent fire hazards at the site. Recent US Census Data shows the life expectancies in Nānākuli are ten years less than the rest of O'ahu. Both landfill facilities present a significant risk to workers and the surrounding community due to accumulated toxins.

Cost Savings and Job Creation of Circular Economy Waste Model

- **Upstream savings (i.e. prior to disposal)**
  - Less shipping subsidies required to import single-use goods.
  - Reusable, repairable and durable goods minimize the recurring costs associated with single-use or non-durable goods and goods designed for obsolescence.
  - Reuse and repair promotes a longer lifespan of an item, getting more value from it. Why buy a new TV for $800 when you can repair the original for $75?
- **Downstream Savings (waste management and disposal costs)**
  - H-POWER's annual operating expenses are $103 million dollars. In 2013, the 3rd boiler expansion cost $302 million, which if adjusted for inflation equals $380 million today. Investing and expanding these existing circular economy models would slow if not prevent the expansion of H-POWER with a 4th boiler in the future.
  - Less direct expenses and externalized costs resulting from human health and environmental issues associated with current waste disposal practices (i.e. PVT, H-POWER, and WGSL).
  - Incinerators destroy resources that are better reused. If the same materials burned in trash incinerators were recycled or composted, they would save 3–5 times more energy since raw materials don't need to be extracted and produced all over again.
- **Job Creation**
  - For every 10,000 tons of waste processed per year, incinerators and landfills create one job, recycling facilities create 10 jobs

[1] http://www.energyjustice.net/files/incineration/trashincineration.pdf

- Reuse, remanufacturing and repairing materials creates 20-300 jobs depending on the material.
- Training more people to perform repair work, ultimately leads to higher skills and more innovation. Innovation leads to job creation.
- Activities like deconstruction create more jobs than demolition.
- A reuse economy in the food service sector means jobs are created in the pick-up, washing, and distribution of products.

Models Happening Elsewhere

Many cities and states across the U.S, similar in scale to our islands, have adopted zero waste initiatives.

Here are just a few examples*

- San Diego- Road to Zero Waste Plan, Next stop 75%
- Baltimore- Fair Development Plan for Zero Waste
- Oakland- The Future: A "Zero Waste" Oakland
- New York- Zero to Landfills Plan
- Austin, TX _- Zero Waste Strategic Plan
- Full list of 18 other ZW communities and their initiatives

Infrastructure for Waste Reduction

- Commercial dishwashing facilities (high efficiency, low water use). These will be used for projects that support milk-man model inspired reuse projects, like:
    - A reusable take-out container system needs Dept. of Health certified washing facilities. This is a job creation opportunity for distributors and dishwashers.
    - Glass bottle reuse for local beverage companies and breweries. Scaling up of Sky Komucha's model and similar in concept to what Portland breweries are doing.
    - Investments in a pilot program to fund the purchase and installation of under counter or rack dishwashers for restaurants and schools in support of reducing single-use disposables, and assisting with Bill 40 (Ordinance 19-30) transition.
    - Investments in other components of a reusable take-out container system.

Food Waste Reduction and Composting

The Vision: A decentralized network of programs and facilities situated regionally to optimize resource recovery. Varying scales of facilities and programs create a modular system that can be effectively scaled and adapted.

- **The Many-Pronged Model:**
    - Expand edible food rescue operations to feed the thousands of food insecure O'ahu residents
    - Invest in ENV education budget to support programs that decrease home food waste, including distributing home composting equipment (highly successful in Kaua'i)
    - Support the development of food recovery and composting operations with a range of capacities that can be situated across O'ahu. Operations employ a range of technologies: Small to mid-Range in-vessel systems, hot compost piles, home composting, all effectively managed
    - Decrease the total amount of imported food as the majority of food waste occurs at the point of entry to Hawaii. Follow the target of Aloha + Challenge, set targets for the food industry's use of local food, and support programs to incentivize a growth in local farming and to train folks to farm efficiently→ Farm hubs, GoFarmHawai'i, etc.
- With initial operations, this network can divert **60,000,000 lbs/yr of organic waste** currently being burned, generating **25,000,000 lbs/yr of high quality compost** to be sold for an anticipated **$5,350,000/yr to sustain operations** indefinitely; all while creating a minimum of **60 new jobs**, sector development and skills training.

Policy Recommendations:

County and State Policies to adopt and support:

- Expand ROH 9-3.5 on mandatory food waste diversion for "recycling" to apply to more operations, capturing a larger portion of business and institution-generated food scraps
- Restrictions on food waste entering landfills and incinerators
- Limiting food overproduction in large institutions
- Requiring donation of edible food to local agencies from grocery stores, restaurants, hospitals, schools/universities (similar to France and Italy). Include incentivization for donation instead of or in addition to a legal mandate.
- Continued pursuit of de-classifying "minor" composting operations as solid waste management facilities
- Requirement for net zero food waste on all campuses by 2035 as part of the Sustainable Schools Initiative. Already agreed upon by HIDOE.
- Requirements in grocery stores for a specific percentage of locally produced food

Education and Outreach Recommendations:

- Expand relationship and support with local farming education programs

- Team up with farm hubs and groups to carry on programs on a similar track to Farm to Car
- Public accolades to hotels or restaurants sourcing about 60% of foods as local
- Sustainable tourism with farm tours and farm help

De-construction Industry

One-third of all waste produced in Hawai'i is created by Construction and Demolition (C&D) activity. Most of the material that is demolished and sent to the landfill is reusable or, at the very least, recyclable. Examples include: old-growth lumber (redwood, fir, cedar and other high-value woods) that is no longer available for purchase, windows, doors, flooring, etc. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Deconstruction is a new term to describe an old process—the selective dismantling or removal of materials from buildings prior to or instead of conventional demolition." Salvaging material for reuse saves resources and energy, creates jobs, and turns waste into a resource. An enormous amount of energy is consumed in the harvest, production, transportation and distribution of new material. Reusing material conserves all of the energy a material has accumulated in its lifetime and minimizes the need to produce new material. For every 1000 lb. of dimensional lumber that is salvaged for reuse it is equivalent to reducing an estimated 1.1 tons of greenhouse gasses from being emitted into the atmosphere. A typical single family house deconstruction will yield on average 8 tons of salvaged lumber.

Benefits of Deconstruction:

- Re-use Hawai'i, the only Deconstruction provider in the state of Hawai'i, has completed more than 500 deconstruction projects across the state, and diverted 11 million pounds of material from the landfill.
- Up to 80% of a structure can be salvaged for reuse and recycling.

Issues with Construction Waste:

Development projects are currently permitted and designated to send their debris to the PVT Landfill. When there is no competitive alternative that is widely available, it stunts any potential to scale a deconstruction and reuse industry.

What we do to solve it:

- Construction material reuse builds on practices that are already common in the industry
- E.g. HART requires contractors to submit Sustainability Action Plans that include landfill waste diversion targets.
- Each contractor is required to divert at least 50% by weight, some contracts achieve close to 90% (road aggregate, asphalt, soil, etc)
- This also helps preserve limited island-based rock quarry resources
- If traditional demolition industry practices are revised to include reuse as a central goal, the community, our local economy, and environment will benefit.

Industry Impacts and Job Growth:

- Deconstruction, material processing and redistribution(retail) created 8-10 times more jobs as compared to traditional demolition. Plus, waste can be minimized and affordable community resources are generated.
- There is high demand by the community for these materials, especially if they are distributed by a local nonprofit because it will be affordable.

Policy Recommendations

- Statewide and local mandated deconstruction for city and state owned buildings.
- Statewide and local mandated deconstruction for all hotels, condominium, and apartment complexes
- Tax breaks for individuals using deconstruction materials as 25% of total construction materials in new home construction since the solar roof tax break and free EV parking benefit have both sunset
- Tax break to commercial developers using deconstruction materials as 50% of total construction materials in new building construction (not including interior design and decor)
- Deconstruction jobs training program for skilled workers that provide a living wage income.

Education and Outreach Recommendations:

- Required educational sessions on Deconstruction to all union members of the Hawai'i Construction Alliance
- Certificate programs on Deconstruction in construction trade schools to create more certified Construction workers

E-Waste

In order to understand the urgency to address e-waste, start with the scope of it through numbers. There are roughly 1 million people on O'ahu. Each person has multiple devices- computers, laptops, cell Phones, tablets etc. Assuming that only half of the people have one device each, then that 500,000 devices on the Island (low estimate). On average, people purchase a new one computer every 4 years. Then 500,000 computers divided by 4 equals 125,000 Computers per year are considered e-waste. This is a wasted opportunity to refurbish these items but also increase access to critical technology for low-income and working class communities like Hawaiian Hope, a nonprofit organization, does every day.

Issues with E-Waste:

- **Mostly going into the trash;** "wasted materials is a wasted opportunity.
- Hawaiian Hope took in "only" 6,000 Computers in 2019 to repurpose and redistribute back into the community. (Annual budget only $97,000)
- But where did the other 119,000 Computers go? Trash, Dumpsters, Recycling (scrap metal), Landfill, Garages, Storage. Annual Lost Value of over $5,900,000 (119,000 computer x $50 value each computer)

Industry Impacts and Job Growth:

- Hawaiian Hope takes in 50,000 Computers to repurpose and redistribute back into the community.
- Provide more resources for the community to further their education and job skills in computer technology.
- Can provide jobs to special needs workers who excel at detail oriented work (Boulder Colorado specifically employs autistic workers that struggle to find jobs elsewhere to break down phones and computers and they have been proven to excel and maintain their jobs for long durations)

Policy Recommendations:

- Prioritize reuse by mandating all municipalities to donate old devices to non-profit organizations like Hawaiian Hope.
- Mandate county level "Re-use for E-waste"- It can be a donation to groups like Hawaiian Hope.
- Prohibit E-waste from entering the waste stream (Boulder, Colorado passed this in 2013)
- Require all electronics sold in the state to include an info card about e-waste recycling with receipt.

Education and Outreach Recommendations:

- The best way to educate the public is through incorporating e-waste into the larger waste management conversation.
- Reach customers through the place they are purchasing the equipment- Microsoft, Apple, BestBuy, Target, Walmart, Costco.
- E-waste drives at the above mentioned businesses plus college campuses.

Plastic pollution, Oil and Upcycling:

One of the biggest threats to public health, water, wildlife, and the environment is plastic. Over 400 million tons of plastics are produced each year. Since 1950- plastic production has increased almost 2000%. Nearly half is used for packaging and the other half is single-use products and plastic bottles. The International Energy Agency predicts that plastics' consumption of oil will outpace that of cars by 2050. At a time when we are trying to end our dependence on fossil fuels which threaten our chances of mitigating climate change, production of plastics must also be seriously reduced and eventually replaced.

Health and environmental impacts:

Recent studies indicate that humans are ingesting credit cards worth of plastics every week due to the perpetual presence of plastic particles in water and air. Scientific analysis shows that plastics collect toxic pathogens that can leach into the creatures that consume them, including

the seafood we consume as humans. There is also growing concern around the amount of microplastics found in the oceans. Recent studies conducted by University of Hawai'i Mānoa researchers also demonstrate that as plastics degrade in the sun, they release methane gas, the most potent of greenhouse gases. Plastic pollution presents dangers to marine wildlife, navigation, and tourism economies. Marine plastic pollution has impacted at least 267 species worldwide, including 86% of all sea turtle species, 44% of all seabird species and 43% of all marine mammal species. The impacts include fatalities as a result of ingestion, starvation, suffocation, infection, drowning, and entanglement. Plastics accumulate in the marine environment and don't biodegrade; they simply break up into smaller pieces of plastic that look suspiciously like food sources for many marine animals.

Investing in Job Growth:

Cleaning Up: Cleanup orgs, DLNR, and NOAA clean millions of lbs of debris ($1million in volunteer hours annually)

- cleanup groups like Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii (SCH) could **immediately hire 5+ ocean cleaners/collectors**
- There are at least 10 organizations across Hawaii that already focus on cleanups and could use the staffing to do more.

Upcycling Plastics: SCH with other collaborators will be launching a prototype ***plastic upcycling center*** in 2021 (marine plastics to building blocks or small items).

- The center will also house a marine education center for interactive school learning.
- Jobs: 3 full time environmental educators in 2020 + Machine manager + Marine Debris Manager
- Initial seed funding secured. Technological upgrades for 2022 = 350k.
- Year 1 job costs: 600k

Policy Recommendations

To further our transition away from single use plastics, we need to put other things in play to make the transition easier for the community

- Investing in public water- pipes, filtration
- Access to clean drinking water needs to increase across the state, but specifically in public parks, by beach parks, in tourist destinations, outdoor shopping areas, school campuses, in the airport. Hundreds more need to be added across the state
- Only allowing plastics that have a market value to be imported or used in Hawai'i
- Ban on hotel mini toiletry bottles and single use water bottles. Starting with large hotels and then including all. This passed in California in a similar phase-out method in 2019.
- Resolution for plastics education on all land, sea, and air tours and alternatives to be provided.
- Sustainable tourism tax/green fee on all incoming tourists to be used to offset the various projects across the state being created in order to transition us away from plastics

Education and Outreach Recommendations:

- Public information about reducing plastic use and its links to climate change and the destruction of our ocean and beaches. Information to be communicated in airports, hotels, beach/surf shops, tour operator locations, schools, state and national parks → potential work to be done through OCCSR's new outreach and communication director position.

Conclusion

Addressing Waste Issues is a win-win. A shift to a circular and regenerative economy addresses inequities and saves the county, state, and businesses money both upstream and downstream of disposal. It also generates revenue and creates safe living wage jobs via business models that will protect and sustain people and the ʻāina. We have the opportunity to create locally based economies throughout Oʻahu and tap into an emerging industry that provides thousands of long-term family-sustaining jobs and meets our sustainability and resiliency goals. This also means producing to *live well without living better at the expense of others.*

As organizations and community members already committed to this work, we look forward to building government partnerships that make these recommendations a reality in our mutual goal to have a just recovery and revitalization for Honolulu County.

Due to the closure of hotels and restaurants, Hawai'i's farmers and ranchers are suffering a 50% decline in sales on average. Estimated sales losses for local food producers alone average $2MM per week. Other agricultural sectors have been heavily impacted as well - in the nursery/floriculture sector, for instance, sales have likely decreased by more than 80%, meaning average weekly losses of $1.5MM.

Food Producer Sales ($s in thousands)

	Annual Sales	Avg. Weekly Sales	Food Factor	Avg. Weekly Adj. Sales	Sales Decline	Avg. Weekly Lost Sales
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	$85,211	$1,639	100%	$1,639	50%	$819
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	$144,161	$2,772	66%	$1,830	25%	$457
Livestock, poultry, and their products	$146,733	$2,822	66%	$1,862	50%	$931
Local Food Producer Sales	**$376,105**	**$7,233**		**$5,331**		**$2,208**

Source: 2017 Census of Agriculture and Agricultural Response & Recovery Working Group

Simultaneously, as unemployment has exceeded 35%, food insecurity and community feeding needs have skyrocketed as island families contend with the loss of employment. A robust agricultural sector is essential to enduring through and recovering from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Strengthening our food and agricultural system now is also critical to ensuring our readiness and resilience to future disasters.

As a broad coalition of agricultural stakeholders, we have articulated a plan to:

- direct resources to keep farmers and ranchers economically viable,
- mobilize local food production to address immediate community feeding needs,
- contribute significantly to Hawai'i's economic recovery,
- build lasting capacity to grow a more resilient and equitable food system for Hawai'i.

Our plan for agriculture tracks the three phases of the State of Hawai'i's Recovery Navigator:

1. **Stabilization:** *Address the immediate economic needs of Hawai'i's producers and ensure community food security.*
2. **Reopening & Recovery:** *Promote new markets and invest in critical infrastructure so producers can efficiently pivot to new wholesale and retail opportunities while restoring Hawai'i's food system.*
3. **Resilience:** *Build a resilient food and agricultural economy with strong businesses, job growth, food secure households, robust networks, food system planning, and food safety.*

Details for this plan are found in the attached matrix, which outlines a set of food and agricultural initiatives to support Hawai'i's economic, social, cultural, and ecological vitality.

<u>Agriculture Response and Recovery Working Group Member</u>

Nick Comerford, University of Hawai'i (UH) College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR)
Jesse Cooke, Ulupono Initiative
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Michelle Galimba, Kuahiwi Ranch
Hunter Heaivilin, Supersistence
Brenda Iokepa-Moses, USDA Rural Development
Taylor Kellerman, Agriculture Leadership Foundation of Hawai'i and Kualoa Ranch
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Albie Miles, UH West O'ahu, Sustainable Community Food Systems
Nicole Milne, The Kohala Center
Vincent Mina, Hawai'i Farmers Union United
Brian Miyamoto, Hawai'i Farm Bureau Federation
Claire Sullivan, MA'O Organic Farms
Dana Sato, Kamehameha Schools
Eric Tanouye, Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association and Green Point Nurseries

Working Group members are participating as individuals with specialized expertise, and are not serving as official representatives of their respective organizations.

Exhibit B

Growing a Strong and Resilient Hawai'i

Ag Response & Recovery Working Group, May 2020

1 Stabilization

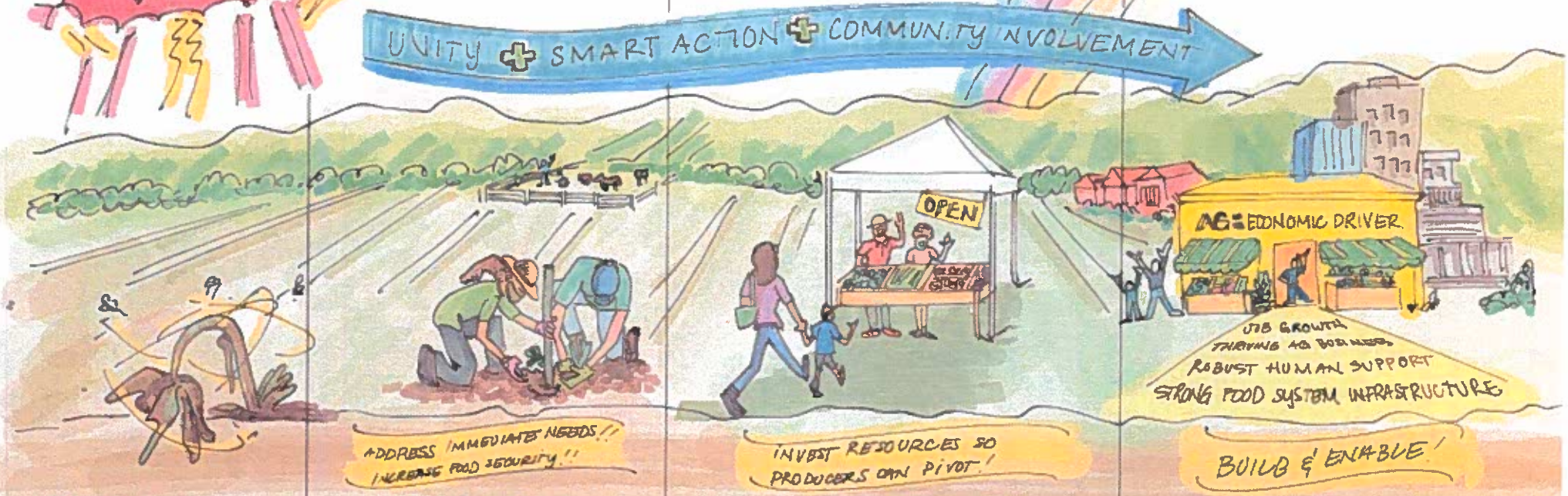
Existing farmers are farming, ranchers are ranching, everyone in Hawai'i has sufficient access to nutritious food.

2 Re-Opening & Recovery

Public and private sector commit to ongoing investment in local agricultural capacity and infrastructure.

3 Resilience

Agriculture is a core component of Hawai'i's diversified and resilient economy and local community.



- ▼ Hawai'i's farmers and ranchers suffering a 50% decline in sales
- ▼ estimated sales losses for local food producers alone average $2MM per week.
- ▼ nursery/floriculture sector decreased by more than 80% with average weekly losses of $1.5MM.
- ▼ unemployment has reached 37%, food insecurity and community feeding needs have skyrocketed

- ☐ direct payments to food producers to address immediate community feeding needs
- ☐ emergency grants and loans for producers, aggregators & distributors
- ☐ expand SNAP and grow double buck programs for local produce
- ☐ loan and rent deferrals
- ☐ workforce and volunteer initiatives
- ☐ emergency feeding needs assessment and mobilization

- ☐ fund farmer-community feeding org partnerships
- ☐ farm tax credit for food bank donations
- ☐ create favorable loan and grant programs
- ☐ local purchasing minimums at state institutions
- ☐ subsidies for inter-island cargo
- ☐ expand SNAP and grow double bucks programs
- ☐ DOA and CIP shovel-ready ag industry projects
- ☐ public campaign to support local ag industry
- ☐ consolidate and grow access to diverse markets
- ☐ workforce development for farmers and laborers
- ☐ apprenticeships to transition unemployed workers
- ☐ agritourism and local purchasing in visitor industry
- ☐ enhance emergency food preparedness
- ☐ assess losses, food price and availability, and opportunities for import substitution
- ☐ resource, network, and gap analysis

- ☐ farmer access to capital
- ☐ strategic processing, aggregation, storage, and delivery infrastructure
- ☐ farmer training, apprenticeships, and scholarships
- ☐ public and private positions to support food system
- ☐ local food purchasing programs through public and private channels

Storymap by GoodJujuCo.com

	Phase 1 Stabilization	Phase 2a Reopening	Phase 2b Recovery	Phase 3 Resilience
DIRECT PRODUCER SUPPORT Staying Afloat	Create a Food Security Subsidy Fund/Program to directly fund local food producers that provide food to the community through local non-profits that provide free or discounted fresh produce or prepared meals.			
DIRECT PRODUCER SUPPORT Getting Back to Business	Official statement supporting and re-opening of farmers' markets across the State that comply with health restrictions to protect vendors and customers.(1) Allow plant nurseries to continue operations under appropriate protective health restrictions, or to conduct sales via curbside pickup or by delivery. (2)	Invest in public campaigns to highlight the importance of supporting the local agricultural industry. Build on crisis-driven consumer interest in local food. Consolidate gains of local producers with new markets, including direct to consumer channels, such as farmers markets and CSAs, food banks, and institutional buyers.	Continue building local producer access to a diversity of channels, including consumer outlets like farmers markets and CSAs, food banks, institutional buyers, and re-emerging visitor industry.	
DIRECT PRODUCER SUPPORT Loans & Investment	Loan forgiveness/forbearance to give farmers, ranchers, and floriculturists a window to adjust their operations. A suggested strategy is a 6 month period with an option to renew for an additional 6 months. This includes loans with HDOA, USDA agencies, and others. Increase funding for HDOA's loan program.	Availability of philanthropic and low interest rate loans for agricultural producers.	Availability of philanthropic and low interest rate loans for agricultural producers.	Ensure sufficient capital and ease of access for agricultural producers to scale operations. (3) Encourage investment in agriculture using tools such as Investment Tax Credits, Family Farm Tax Breaks, Agriculture Workforce Housing Tax Credits, and Donated Agricultural Products Transportation Credit, and Energy Conservation Financial Assistance and Incentive Programs
DIRECT PRODUCER SUPPORT Grants	Micro-grants for up to $50,000, depending on need and the scale of the applicant's operations. Provide direct funding to local producers, including floriculturists, for farm inputs and other production costs that include, but are not limited to, feed, water fees, land lease/rents, energy costs, and transportation costs.	Grants to support direct food distribution strategies for increasing the targeting of produce to individual consumers.	Incentivize the adoption of conservation farming practices through enhanced support for conservation planning, organic certification, and EQUIP-related practices. Enact Payment for Ecosystem Services Program (PES) for Hawaii farmers, thus tying incentives for conservation farming practices to state sustainability goals.	Provide carbon off set support to producers putting carbon back into the soils with their farming practices. Rebuild the vitality of our soils through cover crop conservation initiatives. Create a cover crop seed industry on state agricultural lands. Develop on farm demonstration program to implement cover crop strategies.
DIRECT PRODUCER SUPPORT Cost Reduction	Elimination, reduction, or deferral of payments owed to State/County agencies for land, water, irrigation, GET taxes, and facility leases and licenses.	Subsidize inter-island transportation for livestock and crops from neighbor islands to Oahu.		
DIRECT PRODUCER SUPPORT Livestock	Grants to incentivize the donation of food waste to local livestock farmers for feed. Subsidies for inter-island transportation costs and for livestock feed supplies disrupted during the shutdown.	Incentivize and support livestock production for local markets and support small livestock producers through market access, forage and feed development resources, and technical support.	Invest in modernization and expansion of existing livestock processing capacity on each island, including small animal processing.	Maintain livestock processing capacity on each island.

	Phase 1 Stabilization	Phase 2a Reopening	Phase 2b Recovery	Phase 3 Resilience
CAPACITY BUILDING Community Feeding	Fund community organizations to purchase locally produced food to meet community feeding needs. Activate FEMA resources. Increase allocation for Double-Up Bucks to all Hawaii SNAP households.	Fund community organizations to purchase locally produced food to meet community feeding needs.	Fund community organizations to purchase locally produced food to meet community feeding needs. Create farm tax credit for donations to food banks.	Fund community organizations to purchase locally produced food to meet community feeding needs. Establish/maintain funding for Food Access Coordinators on each island.
CAPACITY BUILDING Technical Assistance	Provide/fund technical assistance to access federal supports (e.g., grants, loans, reimbursement of transportation cost payment program, etc.).	Increase support to public and private sector partners to provide technical assistance to producers.		
CAPACITY BUILDING Purchasing	SNAP expansion: increase support for SNAP Double Up Food Bucks local food purchasing program; make SNAP application process less onerous.	SNAP expansion: continue efforts from phase 1; support and encourage grocers and others who sell directly to consumers to offer SNAP and double bucks for local produce; provide assistance to upgrade payment system and overcome other barriers.	Coordinate with visitor industry to increase demand and purchasing of local, sustainable, and cultural foods.	Develop and implement local "Good Food Purchasing" program to encourage state institution purchasing, including setting of goals, development of mandates, and use of contracting tools.
CAPACITY BUILDING Workforce Development	Facilitate volunteer support on farms, including gleaners to harvest for donation.		Align with Hawaii 2.0 economic diversification. Support and expand training programs and apprenticeships, for both farm owners and laborers. Transition unemployed into agriculture.	Incentivize youth to enter higher education tracking students into food and agriculture careers emphasizing food system resilience and disaster preparedness via scholarships, stipends, etc. Fund scaling of training and apprenticeship programs to multiple sites on each island. Scale related incubation programs and launch new enterprises into enterprises and cooperative businesses. Build justice and equity priorities into state agricultural programs (e.g. California Farmer Equity Act).
CAPACITY BUILDING Marketing, Aggregation & Distribution	Grants to Organizations Facilitating Direct Farm to Consumer Delivery. Help to secure additional labor and infrastructure, including transportation, cold storage, leases and utilities, etc.	Support, strengthen and expand existing food hubs, aggregators, and distributors and marketing services for Hawai'i's farmers to gain entry into new markets.	Expand role of agritourism in Hawai'i 2.0 visitor industry. Provide training programs for farmers to diversify into agritourism as appropriate.	Create regular state support for food hubs, aggregators, and distributors so they can help facilitate local food for public programs.
CAPACITY BUILDING Data & Analysis	Needs Assessment: determine emergency feeding requirements statewide, what can be sourced locally, and how expansion take place	Assess impact and losses by sector. Assess greatest opportunities for import substitution.	Fund tools to assess food price and availability. Conduct an agricultural sector social network analysis to understand resources and connection gaps	Identify, assess, and measure key food system vulnerabilities with respect to pandemics, severe weather events and longer-term climate change impacts on critical infrastructure. Utilize data to inform the development of a State Food Policy and food system resilience planning process. Develop key criteria and metrics for tracking food system resilience via the HGG/Aloha+ Dashboard.
CAPACITY BUILDING Preparation & Mitigation			Develop comprehensive outreach, education and financial incentive programs to achieve the recommended 14-day supply of food and water for target % of Hawaii residents.	Fund and position complementary professional food system sustainability and resilience human Resource Staff Across the State of Hawaii: Island Food Access Coordinators (modeled after Hawaii County); emergency food planner at HIEMA; food system planner in the State of Hawaii Office of Planning; food system planner in the City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency; Fund endowment for UH undergraduate and graduates student scholarship program in the area of Food System Resilience and Disaster Preparedness.

	Phase 1 Stabilization	Phase 2a Reopening	Phase 2b Recovery	Phase 3 Resilience
INFRASTRUCTURE Facilities	Allow use of state and other underutilized facilities, kitchens, and cold storage, to support community food programs.	Inventory existing facilities, assess capacity/utilization and need for facilities. Repurpose and refurbish underutilized facilities to serve food producer, processor, aggregator, and distributor needs.	Fund State DOA and other CIP shovel ready projects that support the ag industry, including the Oahu feed mill, Kamuela Vacuum Cooling Plant, etc.	Fund CIP GIAs that support agricultural producers statewide, including food hub/aggregation site development, cold storage, packaging and processing, livestock harvesting, and delivery services. Relocate/build commercial food storage facilities outside of known storm surge/inundation zones (e.g., 1-2 m tsunami, category 3 hurricane storm surge and/or 1-2 m sea-level rise). Incentivize commercial food distributors to hold larger volumes of non-perishable, staple, and emergency foods on each island via PPPs. Articulate emergency food plans involving commercial food distributors and city, county, state, and federal Emergency Management Agencies through PPPs.
INFRASTRUCTURE Irrigation				Fund irrigation projects, including work in East Maui, Galbraith, Kahuku, Molokai, Waimanalo, Waimea, Honokaa-Paauilo, and Waiahole
FEDERAL PROGRAMS	Influence the USDA to increase support for (a) grant, loan, and reimbursement programs within FSA and RD, and technical assistance services to support access to government programs; and (b) Agricultural Research Services, including the Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center in Hilo.	Grow resources for the specialty crop block grant given our unique farm geography, demography, and culture. Increase funding for the Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment (RTCP) Program. As Hawaii's producers innovate new markets to recover from the COVID pandemic, this program will become increasingly important.	Modify SNAP payment rules to allow food banks and hubs to retain SNAP information for SNAP customers. Work with USDA to develop rules for the new micro-grants for Food Security Program (2018 Farm Bill). USDA-RD grants - redesign to aid development for all (including small) producers. USDA-NRCS ex. EQIP - tweak terms to allow more money to go to the producer for a wider range of uses. More food system type programs such as FMPP, LFPP, and producer-oriented grants such as REAP and VAPG.	Build in flexibility to ensure applicability of federal programs for Hawaii producers, given unique seasonality and geography exceptions. Increase support for land grant universities to augment outreach and support for producers.

Notes:

1 Addressed by Gov. Ige's sixth supplemental proclamation of 4/25/20 amending and restating prior proclamations and executive orders related to the COVID-19 emergency

2 Addressed by Gov. Ige's seventh supplemental proclamation related to the COVID-19 emergency

3 Some initiatives/recommendations may require further appropriations or legislative action

Priority Recommendations for City & County of Honolulu
Committee on Economic Assistance and Revitalization

Farm Fed Communities

Approaches to increase community food access and support local agriculture

- Fund community organization purchases of locally produced food to meet community feeding needs.
- Grants to support direct food distribution strategies for increasing the targeting of produce to individual consumers.
    - $1.4m feeds 1200 people a meal per day for 6 months
    - $2m supported 7 weeks of mass food distributions
- SNAP expansion; increase support for SNAP Double Up Food Bucks local food purchasing program.
    - $500k in government funding, matched by $500k in philanthropic funding, would yield $2m in local produce purchases
    - Private philanthropic organizations are ready to match local government funding of Double Up Food Bucks

Direct Producer Support & Capacity Building

Fundable projects to increase farm viability and develop the next generation of farmers

- Micro-grants for up to $50,000, depending on need and scale of applicant's operations.
- Fund scaling of training and apprenticeship programs to multiple sites on each island. Scale related incubation programs and launch new enterprises into enterprises and cooperative businesses.
    - E.g. GoFarm Hawai'i

Building Food System Resilience

Priority actions for county emergency managers and food access coordinators

- Needs Assessment: determine emergency feeding requirements statewide, what can be sourced locally, and how expansion takes place.
- Activate FEMA resources.
- Articulate emergency food plans involving commercial food distributors and city, county, state, and federal Emergency Management Agencies through PPPs.
- Incentivize commercial food distributors to hold larger volumes of non-perishable, staple, and emergency foods on each island via PPPs.
- Develop comprehensive outreach, education and financial incentive programs to achieve the recommended 14-day supply of food and water for a target % of Hawai'i residents.

The Agriculture Response & Recovery Working Group is a broad coalition of agricultural stakeholders from across the sector and the state that convened in response to the destabilization of the coronavirus pandemic, and to forge deeper connections between local agriculture, emergency food distribution, and long-term economic planning. Together we have articulated a plan to keep farmers and ranchers afloat, mobilize local food production to address immediate community feeding needs, contribute to Hawai'i's economic recovery, and build lasting food system capacity to grow a more resilient Hawai'i. This work to strengthen our food system is critical now, will ensure our readiness for future disasters, and fortify us for challenges posed by climate change.

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 20-211

Introduced:	08/20/20	By:	TOMMY WATERS	Committee:	ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND REVITALIZATION

Title: RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE ADMINISTRATION TO SUPPORT A CIRCULAR ECONOMY, FOOD ACCESS, AND LOCAL AGRICULTURE IN IMPLEMENTING HONOLULU'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

08/26/20	ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND REVITALIZATION	CR-205 – RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION. 4 AYES: FUKUNAGA, KOBAYASHI, MENOR, WATERS. 2 EXCUSED: ELEFANTE, MANAHAN.
09/09/20	COUNCIL	CR-205 AND RESOLUTION 20-211 WERE ADOPTED. 9 AYES: ANDERSON, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MENOR, PINE, TSUNEYOSHI, WATERS.

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.

GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK

IKAIKA ANDERSON, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER